

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A lithographic printing plate precursor, comprising on a substrate, an oleophilic layer containing a cross-linked product, that was obtained by crosslinking ~~is cross-linked by~~ a polymer having a heat decomposable group in the main chain with ~~and~~ a cross-linking agent.
2. (previously presented) The printing plate precursor of claim 1, wherein said heat decomposable group is an azo group.
3. (currently amended) The lithographic printing plate precursor of claim 1, wherein said polymer, prior to crosslinking, has a functional group that is capable of reacting with a cross-linking agent.
4. (previously presented) The lithographic printing plate precursor of claim 1, wherein said substrate has a hydrophilic surface.
5. (previously presented) The lithographic printing plate precursor of claim 1, wherein said oleophilic layer further contains a photo-to-heat converting material.
6. (previously presented) The lithographic printing plate precursor of claim 1, further comprising a hydrophilic layer between said substrate and said oleophilic layer.
7. (previously presented) The lithographic printing plate precursor of claim 6, wherein said hydrophilic layer contains a photo-to-heat converting material.
8. (previously presented) A method for preparing a lithographic printing plate comprising:
 exposing the lithographic printing plate precursor of claim 1, to IR radiation and removing the exposed part of said oleophilic layer.

9. (new) The method of claim 8 further comprising mounting the exposed lithographic printing plate precursor directly on a printer without developing.

10 (new) The lithographic printing plate precursor of claim 1 wherein said heat decomposable group is an azo, diazo, dioxy, disulfide, hydrazide, nitro, onium salt, sulfonic ester, disulfonyl, or thiosulfonic group.

11. (new) The lithographic printing plate precursor of claim 1 wherein said polymer having a heat decomposable group is used in combination with another thermally decomposable compound.